



MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: Loafer Timber Sale, Agreement No. 30-082879 and Forest Practices Application No. 2918962. This is an even-aged harvest of 206 acres in 5 units, with 6 acres in 5 associated RMZ thinnings and 6 acres of right-of-way removal, with 3,048 feet of required road construction, 6,084 feet of required road reconstruction, 5,250 feet of pre-haul maintenance, 8,552 feet of optional road construction and 8,552 feet of road abandonment.

Description of mitigation: The following mitigation measures will be implemented with this proposal:

- Riparian Management Zones (RMZ) averaging 167 feet wide on type 3 streams and a minimum 100-foot RMZ along type 4 streams have been retained to protect water quality, provide corridors for wildlife, and maintain habitat for fish and amphibians.
- Wetland Management Zones (WMZ) averaging 167 feet have been left around three wetlands. Reconstruction of the L-1216 will occur through the WMZ between Units 4 and 5. While this wetland only requires a 100-foot buffer, a site index buffer of 167 feet was applied to encompass additional unique, non-wetland features that would have been excluded from a 100-foot buffer. The regional biologist has made a site visit and approves of the plan. Right-of-way width was kept to a minimum through this area, approximately six trees greater than 12 inches DBH will be removed for activities.
- Thinning will take place in five RMZ buffers of type 3 streams in Unit 2. This activity is a Type III RMZ Thinning in Conjunction with Upland Regeneration Harvest per the Riparian Forest Restoration Strategy (RFRS) that will remove approximately 60 ft² of basal area per acre, leaving approximately 210 ft² post harvest. Twenty-seven trees from the largest diameter class are marked to be felled toward the stream to serve as in-stream woody debris and down woody debris designated for habitat enhancement. No trees greater than 25 inches DBH will be removed. Multiple large diameter western redcedar have been excluded to provide natural recruitment.
- Wildlife tree and snag recruitment will be accomplished by retaining a minimum of eight trees per acre, consisting of conifer and hardwood species.
- The most current design and construction techniques will be used for road construction and maintenance operations to minimize impacts on water quality.
- Designated trails with the Tarbell Trail system will have warning signs and lookouts posted when timber falling or harvesting operations occur within 200 feet of a trail in the Tarbell Trail system. When timber falling and harvesting operations take place over trails the trails will be closed and/or re-routed. Trails will be returned to useable condition when logging operations are completed.

Proponent: Department of Natural Resources

Location of proposal: Sections 2, 3, 10, 11 and 16, Township 3 North, Range 4 East, W.M., approximately 19 miles by road, east of Battle Ground, off the L-1000 and L-1200 road systems in Clark County, Washington.

Lead agency: Department of Natural Resources

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.

☒ This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from December 10, 2008. Comments must be submitted by December 24, 2008.

Responsible official: Eric A. Schroff

Position/title: Pacific Cascade Region Manager **Phone:** (360) 577-2025

Address: PO Box 280 Castle Rock, Washington 98611-0280

Date 12-05-08

Signature Eric A. Schroff



There is no agency SEPA appeal.